



SC DEPARTMENT *of*
**ENVIRONMENTAL
SERVICES**

State Regulatory Oversight

July 21, 2026



SCDES

- State cabinet agency,
established July 1, 2024
- Formerly part of SCDHEC
- HQ in Columbia
- 12 Regional Offices





Programs

- Air
 - Water
 - Land & Waste Management
 - Regional & Laboratory Services
 - Coastal Management
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Science Service Sustainability

- Permitting
 - Cleanup
 - Environmental Surveillance & Oversight Program (ESOP)
 - Emergency Preparedness
-

SCDES's Role

- EPA delegated authority
- Federal and State Laws/Regulations
- Do NOT regulate
 - Storage of spent nuclear fuel
 - Nuclear materials



Permitting Process



- Review applications & issue permits
- 30-day public comment period
- Monitoring & reporting requirements
- Inspections
- Enforcement

Permitting Programs

- Drinking Water
- National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
- Navigable Waters
- Underground Injection Control
- Wastewater Treatment
- 401 Certification (Wetlands)
- Stormwater
- Air
- Asbestos
- Hazardous Waste (RCRA)
- Radioactive Waste Transportation
- Solid Waste (Landfills)
- Underground Storage Tanks
- Lab Certification

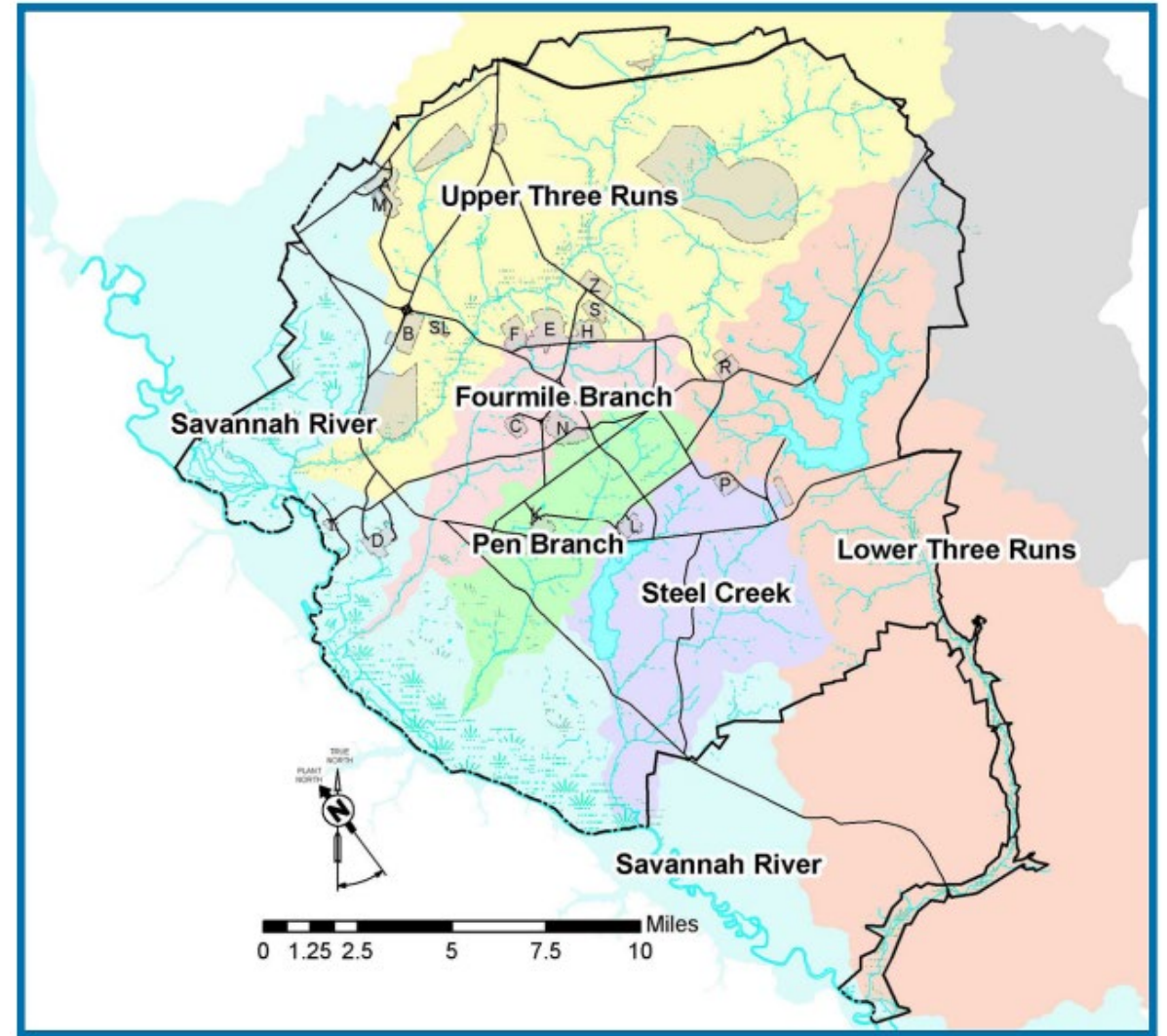
Permitting & Cleanup - RCRA



- Hazardous Waste Permit
 - Management of hazardous & mixed wastes
 - Requires assessment & cleanup of all waste contaminated areas
- Site Treatment Plan (STP)
 - Treatment of legacy waste by an approved schedule, enforced by order
 - Covers legacy mixed low-level, transuranic, and high-level waste

Cleanup - FFA

- Federal Facility Agreement (FFA)
 - Tri-party
 - Roles and responsibilities
 - Integrates RCRA & CERCLA
 - Milestones & penalties
 - Dispute resolution
 - Annual updates



Permitting & Cleanup High-Level Waste



- Section 3116 of 2005 National Defense Authorization Act
- Certain radioactive waste resulting from reprocessing of spent nuclear fuels is not HLW
- Residuals remaining must be under a “State-approved closure plan or State-issued permit”

Permitting & Cleanup High-Level Waste



- Regulated under State Wastewater Program
- FFA Milestones for non-compliant tanks
- Permits for tank related facilities (SWPF, DWPF, SPF, SDUs)

Environmental Surveillance & Oversight Program

- SCDES monitors SRS and surrounding area to determine impact of SRS activities
 - Air, water, soil, sediment, vegetation, milk, fish, and game animals
- SCDES maintains frequent presence at SRS through our Aiken regional office



ESOP
Environmental Surveillance
and Oversight Program
2024 DATA REPORT

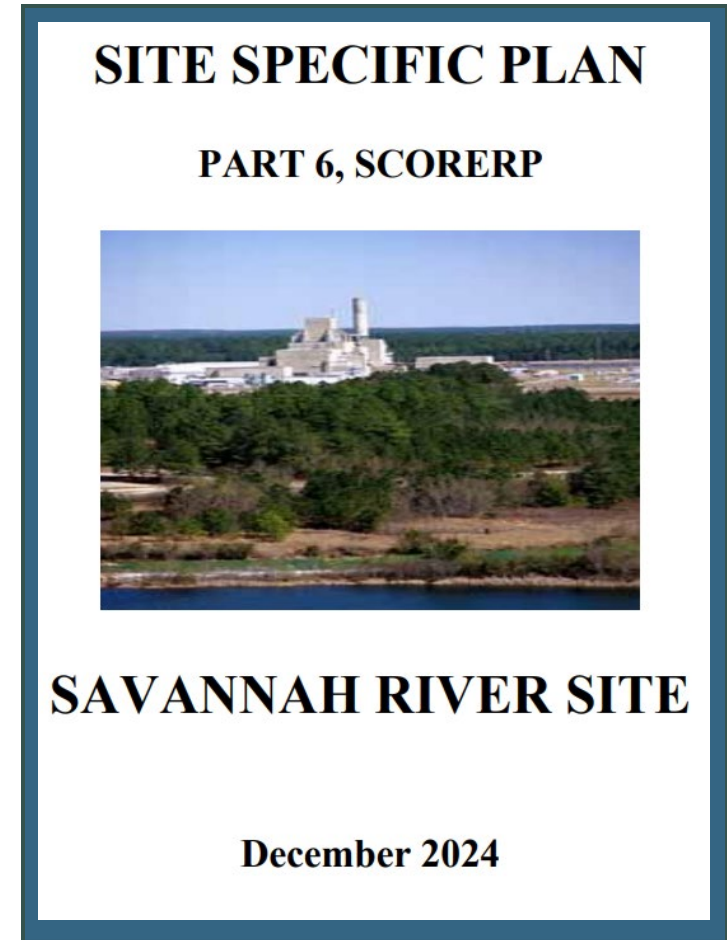


Aiken Environmental Affairs Office
206 Beaufort Street, NE
Aiken, SC 29801

CR-004111 12/25

Emergency Preparedness

- SC has a comprehensive emergency operations plan
- 24-hour per day ER system
- SCDES takes extra measures for SRS
 - Practice drills
 - Quarterly meetings
- Public awareness





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Get in touch

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